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News
United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

Historical, technical data: USDL: 89-535
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BARGAINING ACTIVITY IN 1990

Major collective bargaining agreements covering 3.0 million workers are slated to expire or reopen in 1990, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. These workers constitute 35 percent of the 8.5 million workers under all major agreements (those covering 1,000 workers or more) in private industry and state and local government.

In private industry, scheduled bargaining will cover 2.1 million of the 6.0 million workers under major agreements--about 36 percent, compared with 35 percent in 1989 and 38 percent in 1988.

Workers in private industry whose contracts are slated for renegotiation in 1990 are about equally divided between nonmanufacturing (51 percent) and manufacturing (49 percent) industries. In nonmanufacturing, the largest numbers of workers are in construction with 409,000, wholesale and retail trade (primarily food stores) with 179,000, and trucking and warehousing with 116,000. In manufacturing, the largest numbers are in transportation equipment (primarily automobile manufacturing) with 595,000 and apparel with 97,000.

State and local government bargaining in 1990 will involve 884,000 out of 2.5 million workers under major agreements, or about 35 percent. This proportion was 39 percent in 1989 and 42 percent in 1988. In local government, expiring agreements cover 740,000 workers, 52 percent of whom are in primary and secondary education. In state government, 144,000 workers are covered by contracts slated for renewal; 56 percent are in general administration.

A more detailed account of 1990 bargaining, as well as information on deferred wage changes and cost-of-living adjustment provisions, is scheduled for the January 1990 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. The "1990 Bargaining Calendar" bulletin, listing all major agreements expiring in 1990, is in preparation.

This release is based on information available to the Bureau of Labor Statistics as of September 30, 1989.

Table 1. Number of major collective bargaining agreements 1/ and number of workers covered, total and scheduled 1990 expirations and reopenings, by industry
(Workers in thousands)

Industry	Total		1990 expirations and reopenings	
	Number of agreements	Workers covered	Number of agreements	Workers covered
All industies	1,931	8,482	678	3,008
All private industries	1,263	5,959	432	2,124
Manufacturing	440	2,032	150	1,033
Food and kindred products	53	135	21	43
Apparel and other textile products	27	197	7	97
Petroleum and coal products	11	33	11	33
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products	13	47	7	36
Primary metal industries	41	182	10	50
Electronic and other electric equipment	43	232	9	32
Transportation equipment	69	809	25	595
Other manufacturing industries	183	397	60	147
Nonmanufacturing	823	3,927	282	1,091
Mining	5	74	1	3
Construction	365	1,010	145	409
Transportation	88	925	15	176
Communications	38	526	8	23
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	74	225	26	81
Trade	139	628	35	179
Finance, insurance and real estate	24	133	15	45
Services	90	406	36	176
State and local government	668	2,523	246	884
State government	185	1,028	27	144
Local government	483	1,495	219	740

1/ Agreements covering 1,000 or more workers in private nonagricultural industries and state and local governments.

NOTE: Because of rounding, sums of individual items may not equal totals.

Table 2. Calendar of major collective bargaining activity, 1990
(Workers in thousands)

Month	Principal industries	Agreement 1/ expirations and/or scheduled wage reopenings 2/	
		Number	Workers covered
January	Petroleum refining, local government	38	122
February	Apparel and other textile products	30	144
March	Health services, construction	49	137
April	Construction	48	153
May	Construction	74	224
June	State and local government, construction	215	679
July	Parcel delivery	35	221
August	Food stores	41	206
September	Automobiles, apparel and other textile products, state and local government	70	894
October	Food stores	25	68
November	Transportation equipment	20	60
December	Local government	35	117
Total		678	3,008

1/ See note 1, table 1.

2/ Totals are less than the sum of the parts because two agreements covering 17,000 workers have both a reopening and expiration in 1990.

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